

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of the present application as set forth below. More specifically, a detailed listing of all claims is provided below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Changes to the claims are shown by strikethrough or double brackets (for deleted matter) and underlining (for added matter).

By way of overview, claims 1-4, 6-30, and 32-55 are currently pending. More specifically, the status of the claims is indicated below:

- a) Claims 1, 2, 12, 16, 19, 30, and 41 are currently amended;
- b) Claims 3, 4, 6-11, 13-15, 17, 18, 20-29, 32-34, 36-40, and 42-49 are original;
- c) Claims 35, and 50-55 are previously presented; and
- d) Claims 5 and 31 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The listing of claims follows on the next page:

1 1. (Currently amended) A method of managing a software license, comprising:
2 issuing a license to a client, the license having an expiration date;
3 receiving a license request from the client during a license update period;
4 in response to the license request, providing a new expiration date for the license;
5 and
6 reissuing the license with the new expiration date to the client,
7 wherein the method further comprises making the license available to be issued to
8 any client if the client does not provide a license request.
9

10 2. (Currently amended) A method of managing a software license, comprising:
11 issuing a license to a client, the license having an expiration date;
12 receiving a license request from the client during a license update period;
13 determining that the client has lost the license;
14 issuing a new license to the client if a new license is available, the new license
15 having a new expiration date; and
16 issuing a temporary license to the client if a new license is not available, the
17 temporary license being valid for a temporary period,
18 wherein the method further comprises making the license available to be issued to
19 any client if the client does not provide a license request.
20

21 3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein a temporary license has
22 been issued to the client and the temporary license is within the temporary period, the
23 method further comprising:
24 receiving a license request each time the client accesses a terminal server;
25

1 reissuing the license to the client if the license is available, the reissued license
2 having a new expiration date;

3 issuing a new license to the client if the license is not available and a new license
4 is available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

5 granting the client access to terminal server resources when the license is not
6 reissued and a new license is not issued.

7
8 4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein a temporary license has
9 been issued to the client and the temporary license is beyond the temporary period, the
10 method further comprising:

11 receiving a license request when the client accesses a terminal server;

12 reissuing the license to the client if the license is available, the reissued license
13 having a new expiration date;

14 issuing a new license to the client if the license is not available and a new license
15 is available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

16 denying the client access to terminal server resources when the license is not
17 reissued and a new license is not issued.

18
19 5. (Canceled).

20
21 6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:

22 selecting the expiration date to be a random date such that a period extending
23 from the day the license is issued through the expiration date of the license is at least one
24 day less than the length of the temporary period.

1 7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the license update period
2 begins a predetermined number of days before the expiration date.

3
4 8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the temporary period is a 90
5 day period.

6
7 9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the random date is between
8 52 and 89 days from the date the license is issued.

9
10 10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the temporary license is
11 non-renewable.

12
13 11. (Original) Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
14 for performing the method as recited in claim 2.

15
16 12. (Currently amended) A method of managing a software license, comprising:
17 receiving a license request from a client;
18 determining that the expiration date of a license previously issued to the client has
19 been reached, resulting in the return of the license to an available pool of licenses;

20 reissuing the license to the client if the license is available, the reissued license
21 having a new expiration date;

22 issuing a new license to the client if a new license is available and the previously
23 issued license is not available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

24 denying the client access to software resources if the previously issued license is
25 not reissued and a new license is not issued.

1
2 13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:
3 on the expiration date of the license, making the license available to be issued to
4 any client.

5
6 14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the software resources are
7 located on a terminal server.

8
9 15. (Original) Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
10 for performing the method as recited in claim 12.

11
12 16. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:
13 receiving a license to access software resources, the license having an expiration
14 date;

15 requesting a license update during an update period preceding the expiration date;

16 and

17 in response to the requesting, receiving the license as a reissued license during the
18 update period, the reissued license having a new expiration date,

19 wherein the method further comprises making the license available to be issued to
20 any client if the client does not provide a license request.

21
22 17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the software resources are
23 located on a terminal server.

1 18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein requesting a license
2 update occurs upon accessing the terminal server.

3
4 19. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:
5 receiving a license to access software resources, the license having an expiration
6 date;

7 having lost the license, requesting a license update during a license update period;
8 receiving a new license if a new license is available, the new license having a new
9 expiration date; and

10 receiving a temporary license if a new license is not available, the temporary
11 license being valid for a temporary period,

12 wherein the method further comprises making the license available to be issued to
13 any client if the client does not provide a license request.

14
15 20. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein a temporary license has
16 been received and is within the temporary period, the method further comprising:

17 making a license request;
18 receiving the license as a reissued license if the license is available, the reissued
19 license having a new expiration date;

20 receiving a new license if a new license is available and the license is not
21 available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

22 having access to the software resources when the license is not received as a
23 reissued license and a new license is not received.

1 **21.** (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein a temporary license has
2 been received and is beyond the temporary period, the method further comprising:
3 making a license request;
4 receiving the license as a reissued license if the license is available, the reissued
5 license having a new expiration date;
6 receiving a new license if a new license is available and the license is not
7 available, the new license having a new expiration date; and
8 being denied access to the software resources if the license is not received as a
9 reissued license and a new license is not received.

10
11 **22.** (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the expiration date is a
12 random date such that the period extending from the day the license is first received
13 through the expiration date, is at least one day less than the length of the temporary
14 period.

15
16 **23.** (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the license update period
17 begins a predetermined number of days before the expiration date.

18
19 **24.** (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the temporary period is a
20 90 day period.

21
22 **25.** (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the expiration date is a
23 random date selected between 52 and 89 days from the date the license is issued.
24
25

1 26. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the temporary license is
2 non-renewable.

3
4 27. (Original) Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
5 for performing the method as recited in claim 19.

6
7 28. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the software resources are
8 located on a terminal server.

9
10 29. (Original) A method as recited in claim 28, wherein requesting a license
11 update occurs upon accessing the terminal server.

12
13 30. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
14 receiving a license to access software resources, the license having an expiration
15 date;

16 making a license request after the expiration date has been reached, at which time
17 the license has been returned to an available pool of licenses;

18 receiving the license as a reissued license if the license is available, the reissued
19 license having a new expiration date;

20 receiving a new license if a new license is available and the license is not
21 available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

22 being denied access to the software resources if a reissued license or a new license
23 is not received as a result of the license request.

24
25 31. (Canceled).

1
2 **32. (Original)** Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
3 for performing the method as recited in claim 30.
4

5 **33. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the software resources are
6 located on a terminal server.
7

8 **34. (Original)** A method as recited in claim 33, wherein making a license request
9 occurs upon accessing the terminal server.
10

11 **35. (Previously presented)** A license server comprising:
12 an available license pool to store licenses;
13 an assigned license pool to store information regarding licenses assigned to
14 clients;
15 a request handling module to receive a license request;
16 a new license module to search the available license pool, setting an expiration
17 date on a new license if a new license is available, and issuing the new license to a client;
18 and
19 a license clean-up module operating periodically to review the assigned license
20 pool and return any license to the available license pool which is found to have reached
21 its expiration date.
22

23 **36. (Original)** A license server as recited in claim 35, further comprising:
24 a same license module which, during a license update period, updates the
25 expiration date of a license assigned to a client and reissues the license to the client as an

1 updated license, and, after the license update period, searches in the available license pool
2 for the license, updates the expiration date of the license, and reissues the license to the
3 client as an updated license if the license is found in the available license pool.

4
5 37. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 35, further comprising:

6 a temporary license module to issue a temporary license to a client during a
7 license update period if the client loses a license, is not issued a new license, and has not
8 yet been issued a temporary license, the temporary license having a temporary period.

9
10 38. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 35, wherein periodically is daily,
11 such that the license clean-up module operates on a daily basis to review the assigned
12 license pool and return any license to the available license pool which is found to have
13 reached its expiration date.

14
15 39. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 36, wherein the license update
16 period is a period of a predetermined number of days which immediately precedes the
17 expiration date of the license.

18
19 40. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 37, wherein each expiration
20 date is a random date selected such that a period extending from the day a new license is
21 issued through the expiration date of the new license, is at least one day less than the
22 length of the temporary period.

23
24 41. (Currently amended) A terminal server, comprising:

25 a database to provide terminal server resources to a client;

1 a client access module executing on the one or more processors for allowing
2 access to the terminal server resources by a client having a license and denying access to
3 the terminal server resources by a client not having a license; and,

4 a license request module to:

5 obtain a license for an unlicensed client that connects to the terminal
6 server;

7 obtain a license update for a licensed client that connects to the terminal
8 server during a license update period, and make the license available to other
9 clients if the client fails to connect to the terminal server during the license update
10 period; and

11 obtain a license update or a new license for a previously licensed client
12 connecting to the terminal server after the license update period.

13
14 **42.** (Original) A terminal server as recited in claim 41, wherein the license request
15 module further obtains a temporary license for a licensed client that has lost its license
16 and connects during the license update period.

17
18 **43.** (Original) A system for licensing software, comprising:

19 a license generator configured to receive a license purchase request, and to
20 produce and transport licenses in response to the license purchase request; and,

21 a license server configured to submit the license purchase request to the license
22 generator and store the licenses received in response to the license purchase request in an
23 available license pool; the license server further configured to issue individual licenses to
24 individual clients from the available license pool, the individual licenses each having an
25

1 expiration date; the license server further configured to return licenses that reach their
2 expiration date to the available license pool.

3
4 44. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the license server is
5 further configured to update the expiration date of a client's license and reissue the
6 client's license to the client when the client requests a license during a license update
7 period.

8
9 45. (Original) A system as recited in claim 44, wherein the license server is
10 further configured to search the available license pool for a client's license when the
11 client requests a license after the license update period, and, if the client's license is
12 found in the available license pool, to update the expiration date of the client's license
13 and reissue the client's license to the client.

14
15 46. (Original) A system as recited in claim 45, wherein the license server is
16 further configured to search the available license pool for a new license when the client's
17 license is not found in the available license pool, and to set an expiration date for the new
18 license and issue the new license to the client.

19
20 47. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the license server is
21 further configured to issue a temporary license to the client when the client requests a
22 license during a license update period and the client has lost its license.

23
24 48. (Original) A system as recited in claim 47, wherein the temporary license has
25 a temporary period and expiration dates are random dates which are set such that a period

1 extending from the day a license is issued through the expiration date of the license, is at
2 least one day less than the length of the temporary period.

3
4 **49. (Original)** A system as recited in claim 43, further comprising:
5 a terminal server to facilitate connectivity between the license server and clients
6 for issuing licenses to clients, and to provide resources for clients having a license;
7 the terminal server configured to obtain a license for an unlicensed client that
8 connects to the terminal server;
9 the terminal server further configured to obtain a license update for a licensed
10 client that connects to the terminal server during a license update period;
11 the terminal server further configured to obtain a license update or a new license
12 for a previously licensed client connecting to the terminal server after the license update
13 period.

14
15 **50. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the method is
16 implemented by a computer system, and wherein the issuing a license, receiving,
17 providing, and reissuing are implemented by respective logic.

18
19 **51. (Previously presented)** The method of claim 2, wherein the method is
20 implemented by a computer system, and wherein the issuing a license, receiving,
21 determining, issuing a new license, and issuing a temporary license are implemented by
22 respective logic.

1 **52.** (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the method is
2 implemented by a computer system, and wherein the receiving, determining, reissuing,
3 issuing, and denying are implemented by respective logic.

4
5 **53.** (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the method is
6 implemented by a computer system, and wherein the receiving a license, requesting, and
7 receiving the license as a reissued license are implemented by respective logic.

8
9 **54.** (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the method is
10 implemented by a computer system, and wherein the receiving a license, requesting,
11 receiving a new license, and receiving a temporary license are implemented by respective
12 logic.

13
14 **55.** (Previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the method is
15 implemented by a computer system, and wherein the receiving a license, making,
16 receiving the license as a reissued license, receiving a new license, and being denied
17 access are implemented by respective logic.